



October 30, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

As mayors of the Big City Mayor's Coalition representing some of the largest cities in California, we again thank you for your leadership during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

We write to you today regarding the ongoing discussion surrounding the safe re-opening protocols for some of the largest economic engines in many of our communities – large theme parks.

The guidelines put forth by your Administration were released within the framework of prioritizing public health and safety for guests and employees. This is the right focus. However, economic and public health are not mutually exclusive goals. We are concerned that the state's guidelines would push re-opening of large theme parks up to a year out, which would have significant negative impacts on hundreds of thousands of jobs, thousands of small businesses, and billions in operating revenue for our cities.

As you may have recently seen, labor unions and employee groups representing many of the workers at these theme parks have joined in calls for a timely, safe reopening. This call is a result of their direct knowledge of the health and safety protocols, and their need to get back to work.

We therefore respectfully request that your Administration work with our most impacted coalition members – Los Angeles, Anaheim, San Diego – to continue the discussion of how we can maintain a health-first focus while modifying protocols to allow large theme parks to open in Tier Three with reduced capacity, rather than Tier Four.

We all understand the difficult balance of protecting public health while allowing safe economic activity. We are grounded in the evidence we and your Administration have seen in large theme

parks in or near our jurisdictions, and from theme park reopening efforts in the nation and worldwide, that this can occur. For example, by means of 25% capacity limit, required advance ticket reservations, mandatory mask wearing with strict enforcement, and temperature screening at entrances. To the extent that your health care officials have seen different data, we would appreciate understanding it, because we want to be supportive of your efforts.

Please let us know when our members can arrange a timely briefing with your Administration to understand these new guidelines and the impact they will have on our public health and economies.

Sincerely,



Harry Sidhu
Mayor
City of Anaheim



Eric Garcetti
Mayor
City of Los Angeles



Kevin Faulconer
Mayor
City of San Diego



Sam Liccardo
Mayor
City of San José



Lee Brand
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